

JOINT RESOLUTION

To strengthen the foreign relations of the United States by establishing a Commission on Governmental Use of International Telecommunications.

Whereas the overseas information program as carried on through the media of telecommunications is of continuing and increasing importance in carrying out and supporting the foreign policies of the United States; and

Whereas in his State of the Union message, February 2, 1953, the President asserted the necessity "to make more effective all activities related to international information": Therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there is hereby established a commission to be known as the Commission on Governmental Use of International Telecommunications (in this Act referred to as the "Commission").

Commission on
Governmental Use
of International
Telecommunica-
tions.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION

SEC. 2. NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.—The Commission shall be composed of nine members as follows:

- (1) Five appointed by the President of the United States, of whom at least one shall be appointed from the telecommunications industry and at least one from the field of education and of whom not more than three shall be from the same political party;
- (2) Two appointed from the Senate by the President of the Senate of whom not more than one shall be from the same political party; and
- (3) Two appointed from the House of Representatives by the Speaker of the House of Representatives of whom not more than one shall be from the same political party.

ORGANIZATION OF THE COMMISSION

SEC. 3. The Commission shall choose its Chairman and Vice Chairman from among its members and shall establish its own procedure.

QUORUM

SEC. 4. Five members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum.

COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION

SEC. 5. (a) MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.—Members of Congress who are members of the Commission shall serve without compensation in addition to that received for their services as Members of Congress; but without regard to any other provision of law they shall be reimbursed for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by them in the performance of the duties vested in the Commission and reasonable advances may be made to them for such purposes.

(b) MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH.—Any members of the Commission who may be in the executive branch of the Government shall receive the compensation which he would receive if he were not a member of the Commission, but without regard to any other provision of law they shall be reimbursed for travel, subsistence and other necessary expenses incurred by them in the performance of the duties vested in the Commission and reasonable advances may be made to them for such purposes.

(c) MEMBERS FROM PRIVATE LIFE.—The members from private life shall receive not to exceed \$75 per diem when engaged in the perform-

68 Stat. 587.

68 Stat. 588.

ance of duties vested in the Commission, plus reimbursement for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by them in the performance of such duties.

STAFF OF THE COMMISSION

SEC. 6. The Commission shall have power to appoint a Secretary General at a salary of not to exceed \$15,000 per annum, and an Assistant Secretary General at a salary of not to exceed \$12,500 per annum, and such other personnel in accordance with the Classification Act of 1949, as amended, or to obtain assistance from Government agencies on a reimbursable basis. The Commission is further authorized to employ experts and consultants for temporary and intermittent personal services, but at rates not to exceed \$75 per diem for each individual. The Commission is authorized without regard to any other provision of law to reimburse employees, experts, and consultants for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by them in the performance of their official duties and to make reasonable advances to such persons for such purposes.

EXPENSES OF THE COMMISSION

SEC. 7. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, not to exceed \$250,000 to carry out the provisions of this Act.

REPORT—EXPIRATION OF THE COMMISSION

SEC. 8. (a) **REPORT.**—On or before December 31, 1954, the Commission shall make a report of its findings and recommendations to the Congress. It may submit such interim reports as it deems desirable.

(b) **EXPIRATION OF THE COMMISSION.**—Ninety days after the submission to the Congress of the report provided for in subsection (a) of this section 8, the Commission shall cease to exist.

DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION

SEC. 9. The Commission is directed to examine, study, and report on the objectives, operations, and effectiveness of our information programs with respect to the prompt development of techniques, methods, and programs for greatly expanded and far more effective operations in this vital area of foreign policy through the use of foreign telecommunications.

POWERS OF THE COMMISSION

SEC. 10. (a) The Commission or, on the authorization of the Commission, any subcommittee or member thereof, shall have power to hold hearings and sit and act at such times and places in the United States and abroad, to require by subpoena or otherwise the attendance of such witnesses and the production of such books, papers, and documents, to administer such oaths, and to take such testimony, as the Commission or such subcommittee or member may deem advisable. Subpenas shall be issued under the signature of the Chairman of the Commission and shall be served by any person designated by him.

Hearings.

Subpena.

68 Stat. 588.
68 Stat. 589.

Expenditures.
Fiscal statement and
audit.

(b) The Commission may authorize the Chairman or the Vice Chairman to make the expenditures herein authorized and such other expenditures as the Commission may deem advisable: *Provided, however,* That when the Commission ceases its activities it shall submit to

the Appropriations Committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives a statement of its fiscal transactions properly audited by the Comptroller General of the United States.

(c) The Commission is authorized to secure from any department, agency, or independent instrumentality of the Government any information it deems necessary to carry out its functions under this Act; and each such department, agency, and instrumentality is authorized and directed to furnish such information to the Commission, upon request made by the Chairman or by the Vice Chairman when acting as Chairman.

Approved July 29, 1954.